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AEC Officials, Agents Disturbed

H-Bomb Security Leak Under Probe

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Special to The News-Post.

Honolulu, June 18 (INS)—Two top U. S. officials were on a hush-hush visit to the Eniwetok nuclear proving grounds today as security agents sought to track down a major security breach on last month's aerial hydrogen bomb drop. Admiral

Lewis L. Strauss, chairman of the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission, left late yesterday for Eniwetok in company with Allen Dulles, chief of the super secret Central Intelligence Agency.

During their 12-hour stay here both men secluded themselves at the guest house of Pacific Fleet Commander Admiral Felix B. Stump and were unavailable to newsmen.

MEANWHILE, an FBI spokesman was noncommittal on published reports that security agencies were "closing in" on the serviceman or servicemen responsible for leaks about the May 21 hydrogen bomb having missed its Namu Island target. He said:

"We are interested in any possible security violations which involve the Atomic Energy Act, which we are obligated to enforce."

The Honolulu Advertiser said authorities had pinpointed suspects whose conversation with a night club columnist for a rival newspaper last week led indirectly to a disclosure by Air Force Secretary Donald Quarles that the H-bomb dropped May 21 had missed by "less than four miles."

The FBI and military counter-intelligence agents were said to have traced the source of the leak to a group of military personnel who stayed at a small hotel on a rest and recreation turlough.

THE ADVERTISER said authorities were investigating whether any of the men had been intoxicated when they talked to a representative of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin, which printed a statement this May 21 H-bomb had been seven miles off target and had blinded two observers.

Authorities were represented as being "far more concerned with the fact that (the Star-Bulletin's informant) talked at all than with the mixture of fact and scuttlebutt dispensed."

They were quoted as saying further that the potential dangers of security leaks from the Mid-Pacific nuclear proving ground "make this far more important than just finding out who committed a gossipy indiscretion."